女の子の設計図

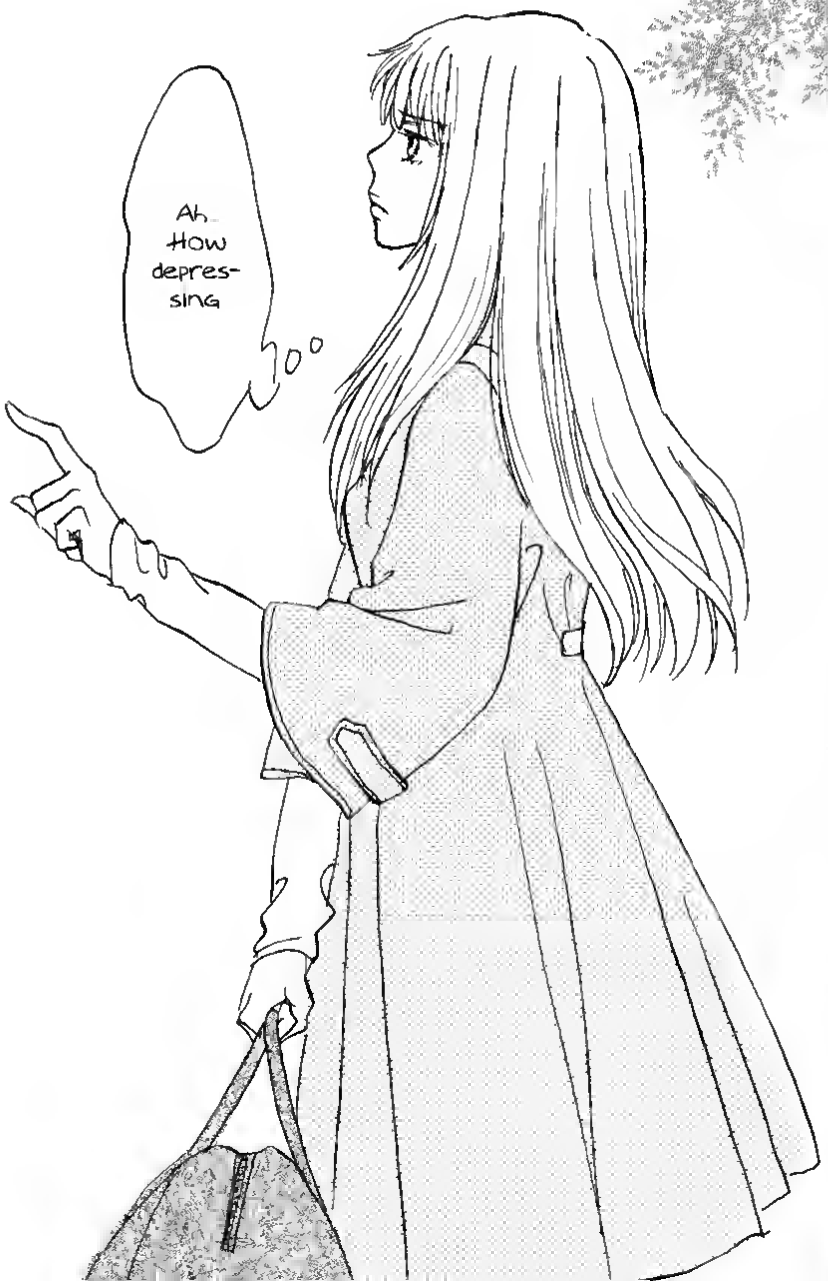
Blueprints for a Girl

Konno Kita
紺野キタ

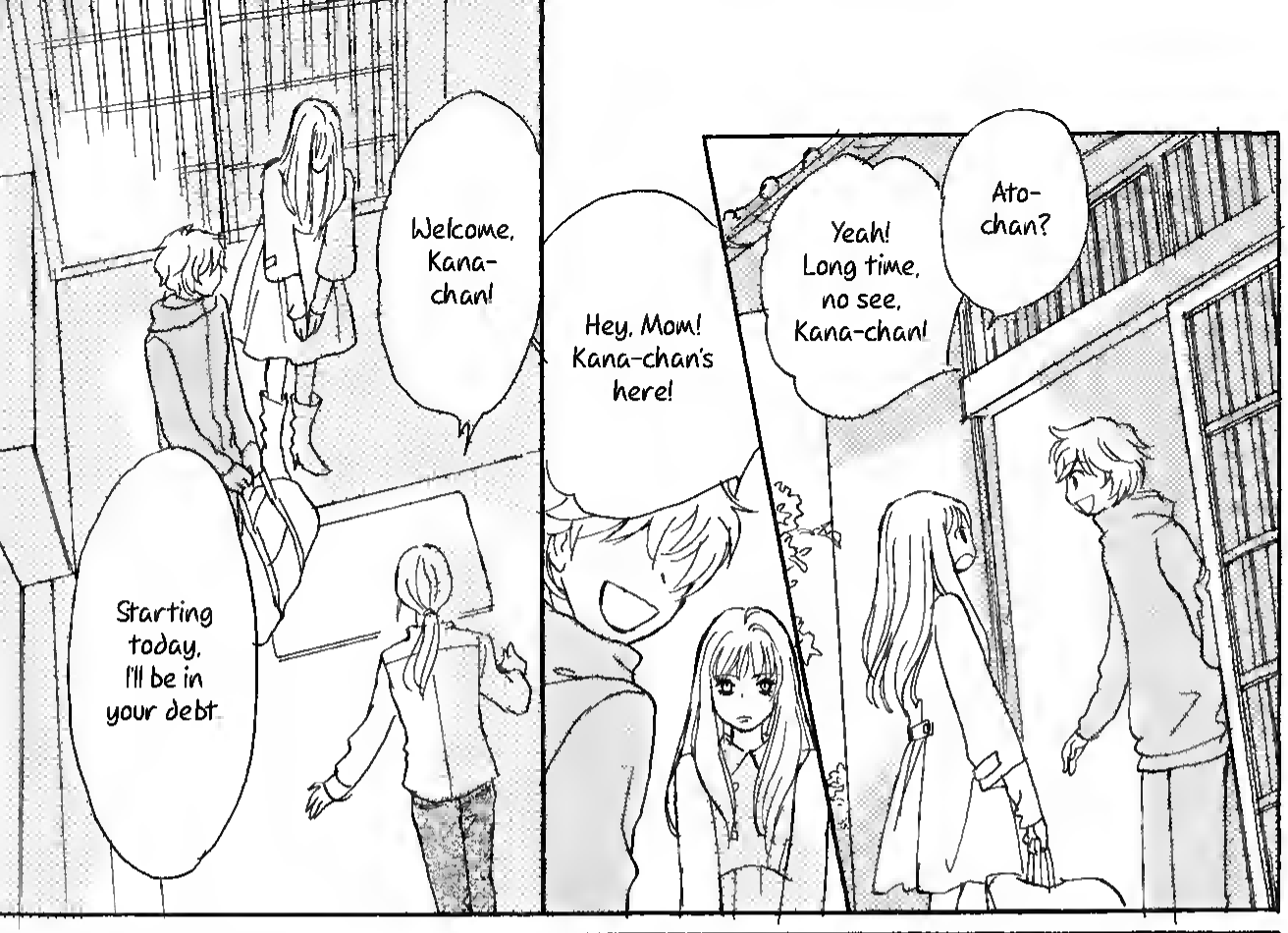
I've cut away the things I cannot bear.

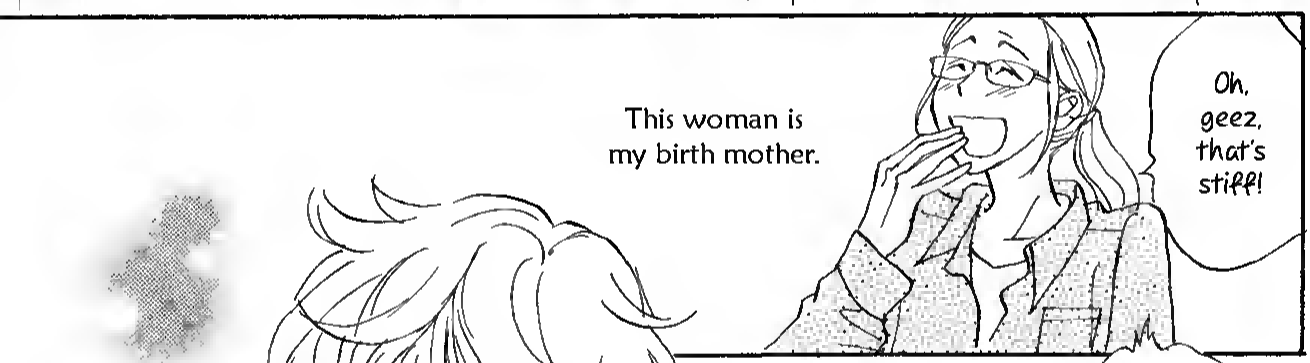
And, now that they've been eliminated, I stand.

I don't have much choice, though. I can't work outside of my limited options...

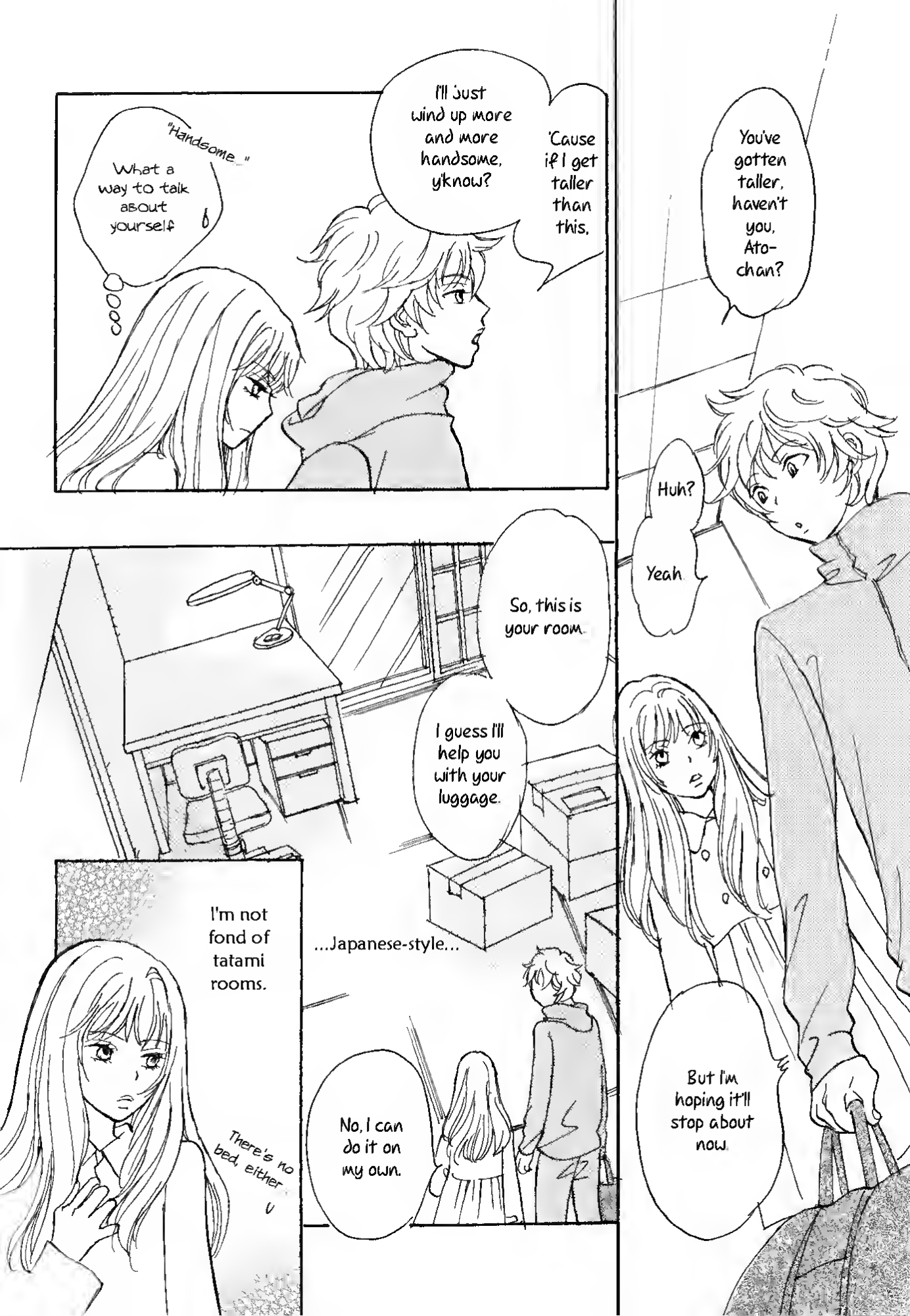


...
roll
Kya!
Huh,?
A boy?
How come?
Kana-chan?


Welcome, Kana-chan!
Starting today, I'll be in your debt.
Hey, Mom! Kana-chan's here!
Yeah! Long time, no see, Kana-chan!
Ato-chan?


This woman is my birth mother.
Oh, geez, that's stiff!

And this
is my younger sister, Ato.
Heavens, Kana-chan, I take my eyes off you for a bit, and you get so pretty!
I was really surprised!!


You've gotten taller, haven't you, Ato-chan?
Huh?
Yeah
But I'm hoping it'll stop about now.
'Cause if I get taller than this,
I'll just wind up more and more handsome, y'know?
"Handsome_"
What a way to talk about yourself
So, this is your room.
I guess I'll help you with your luggage.
...Japanese-style...
No, I can do it on my own.
I'm not fond of tatami rooms.
There's no bed, either.

Next door is my room, so we should have pillow fights at night!

Check it out!

There is a serious lack of privacy

The only partition is the one screen

Hey, let's have tea!

This Spring, my father remarried to a woman a full twenty years younger than him.

...

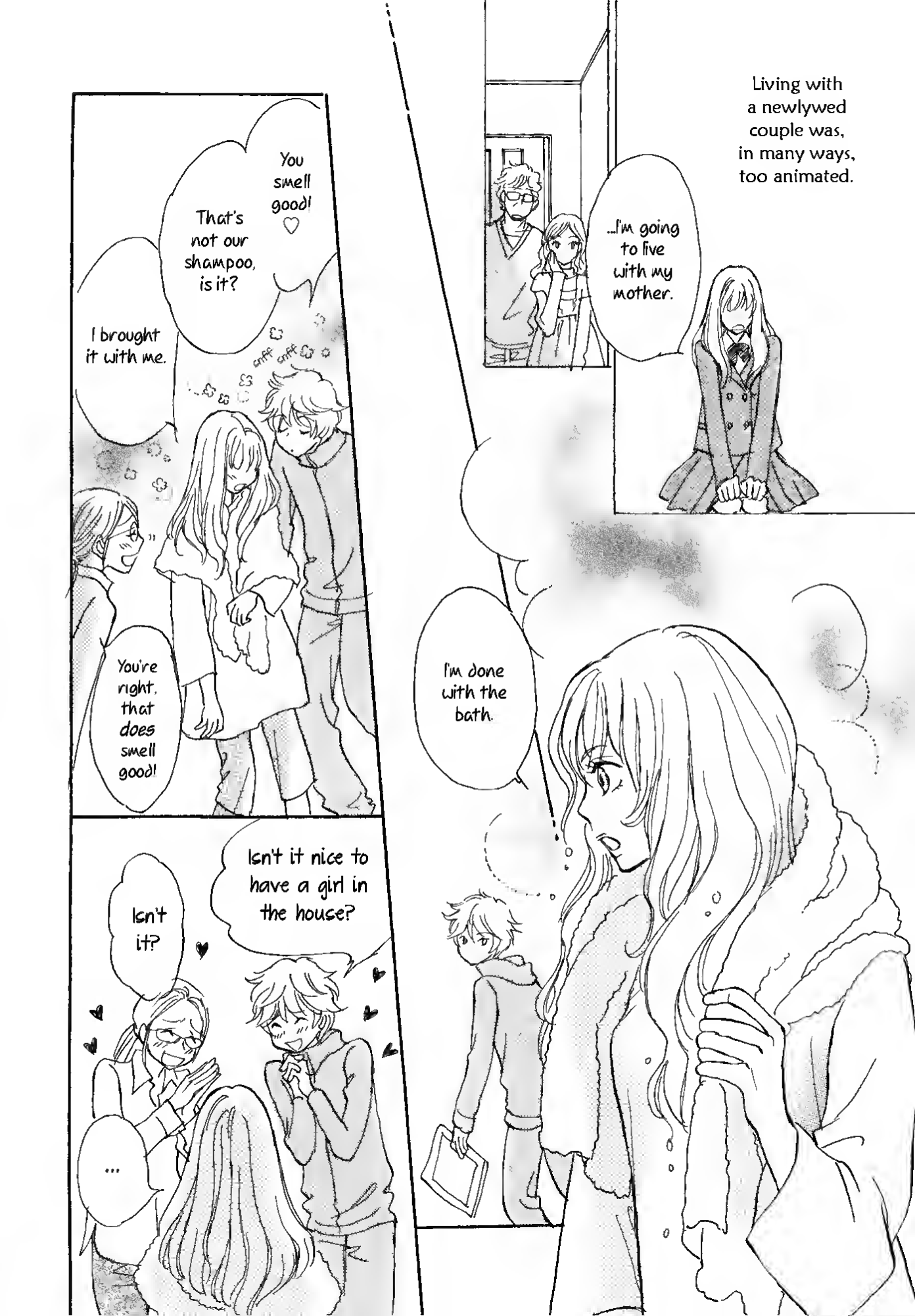
clack!

Oh, we'll clean that up later!

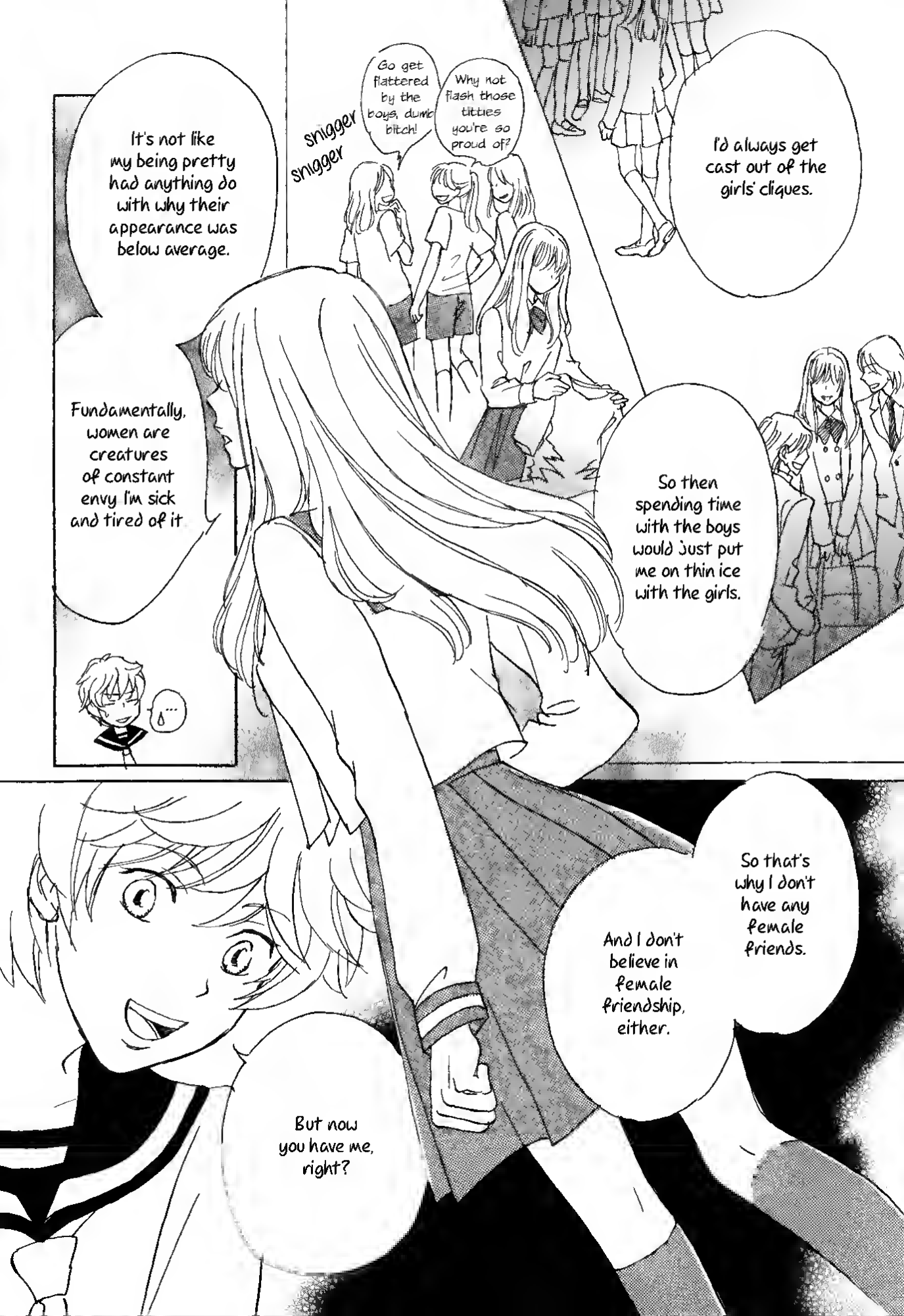
I can't bury a subtle sense of alienation.

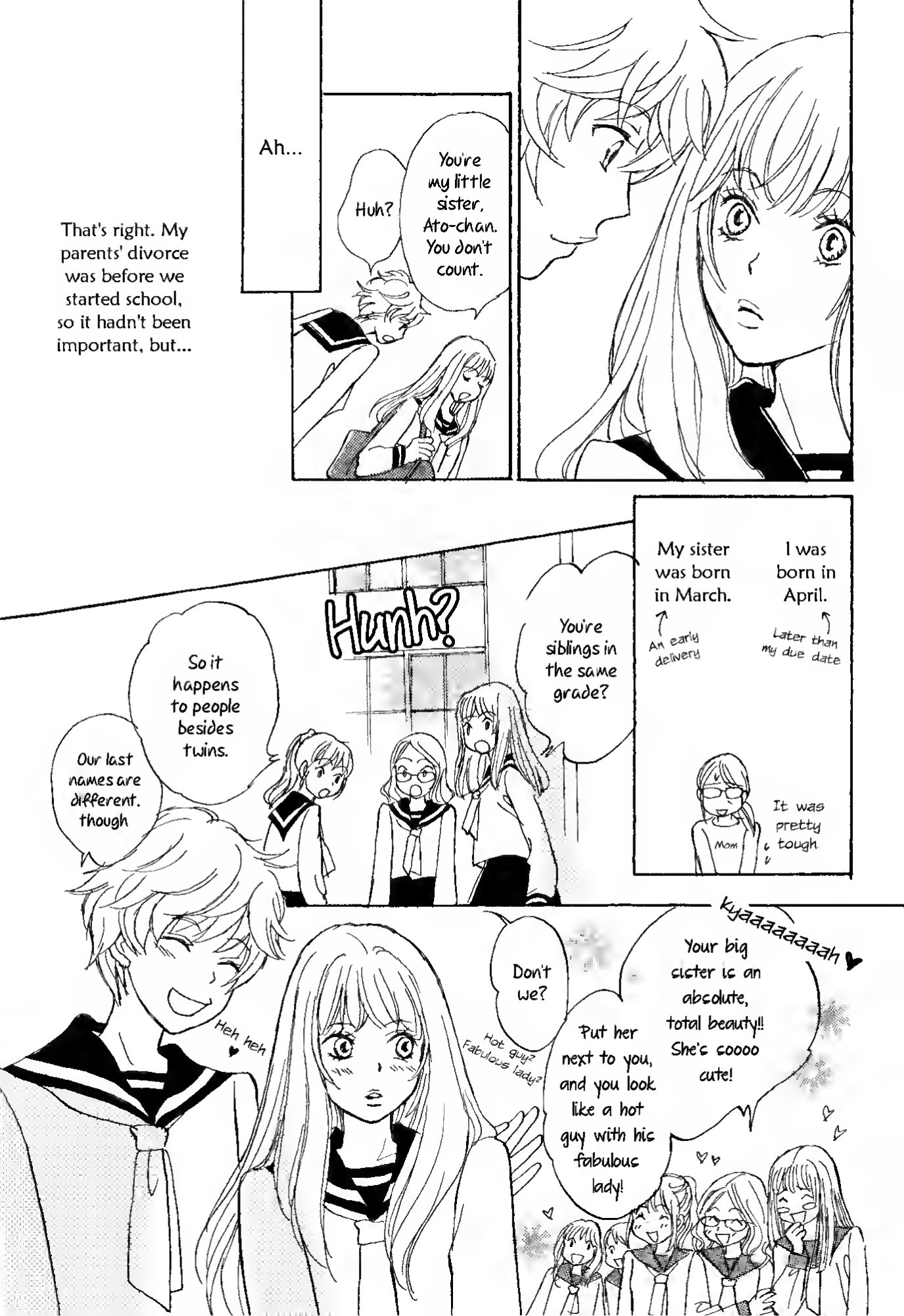
Though I've seen my mother and sister on occasion even after my parents' divorce,

I'm not fond of low tables, either.


Living with a newlywed couple was, in many ways, too animated.
...I'm going to live with my mother.
I'm done with the bath.
You smell good! ♡
That's not our shampoo, is it?
I brought it with me.
sniff sniff
You're right, that does smell good!
Isn't it nice to have a girl in the house?
Isn't it?
...

It would have been nice if they'd let me in without the exam
Just chill. You'll get used to it.
A girls' school is such a drag.
A garden of women? That's just creepy.
Ugh, I get sick just thinking about it.
It's just, in a girls' school, you have girls high and low, left and right, all packed tight into a single building.
Even in elementary and middle school.
It's been that way a long time.
They're the ones that don't like me.
Kana-chan, for a girl, you sure don't like girls.

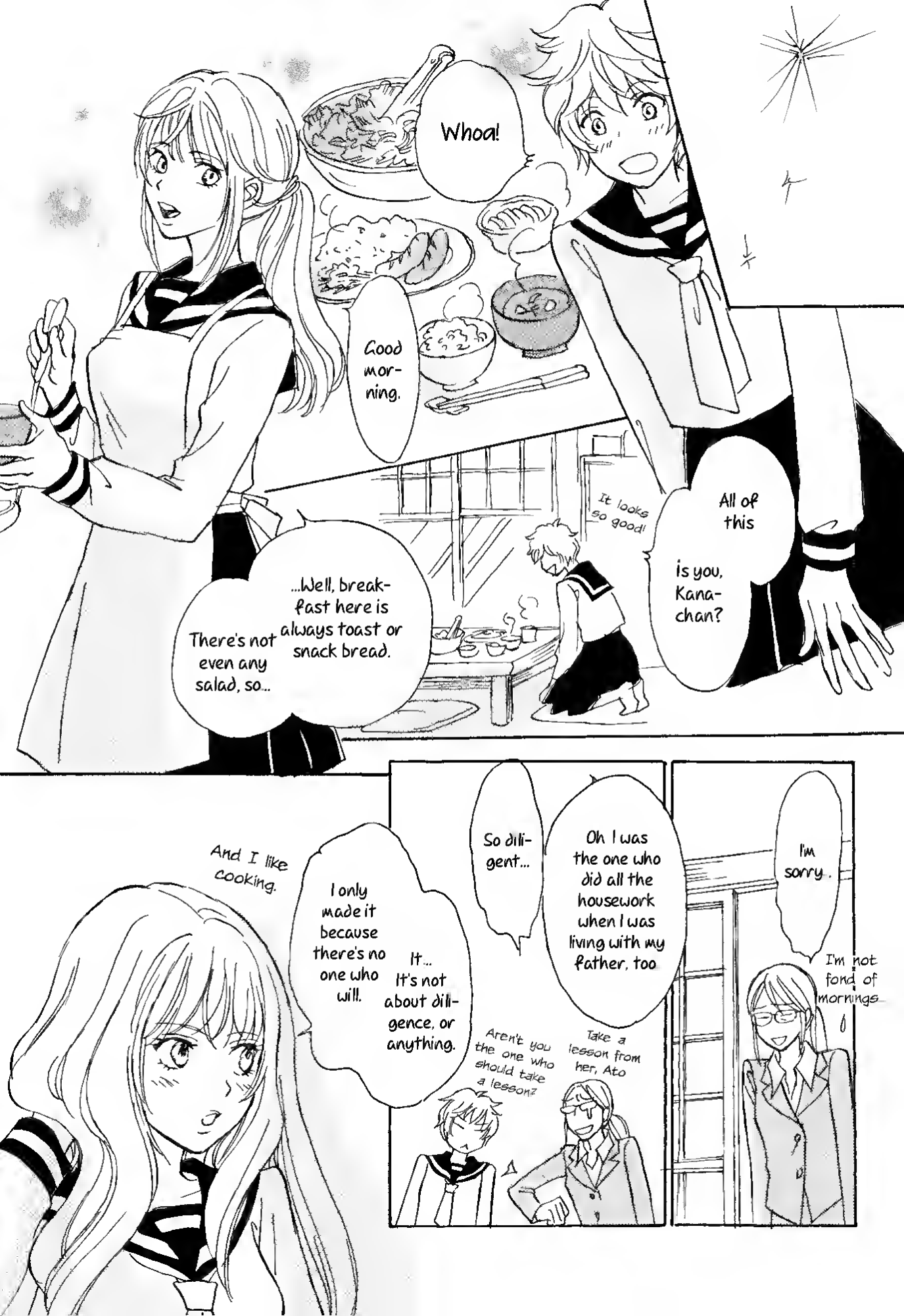

I'd always get cast out of the girls' cliques.
Why not flash those titties you're so proud of?
Go get flattered by the boys, dumb bitch!
snigger snigger
So then spending time with the boys would just put me on thin ice with the girls.
It's not like my being pretty had anything do with why their appearance was below average.
Fundamentally, women are creatures of constant envy I'm sick and tired of it
...
So that's why I don't have any female friends.
And I don't believe in female friendship, either.
But now you have me, right?


That's right. My parents' divorce was before we started school, so it hadn't been important, but...
Ah...
Huh?
You're my little sister, Ato-chan. You don't count.
My sister was born in March.
I was born in April.
An early delivery
Later than my due date
Mom
It was pretty tough
Huh?
You're siblings in the same grade?
So it happens to people besides twins.
Our last names are different, though
Heh heh
Don't we?
Hot guy? Fabulous lady?
Put her next to you, and you look like a hot guy with his fabulous lady!
Your big sister is an abcolute, total beauty!! She's coooo cute!
kyaaaaaaaah

Aw, boo~
See ya!
Ato, get back to your own class-room
clang
clong
Me too! Me too!
During lunch break, I'll give you the tour of the school.
Thanks.
I'll come back later!
Lingering on my shoulder,
the warmth of Ato's palm is heartening.

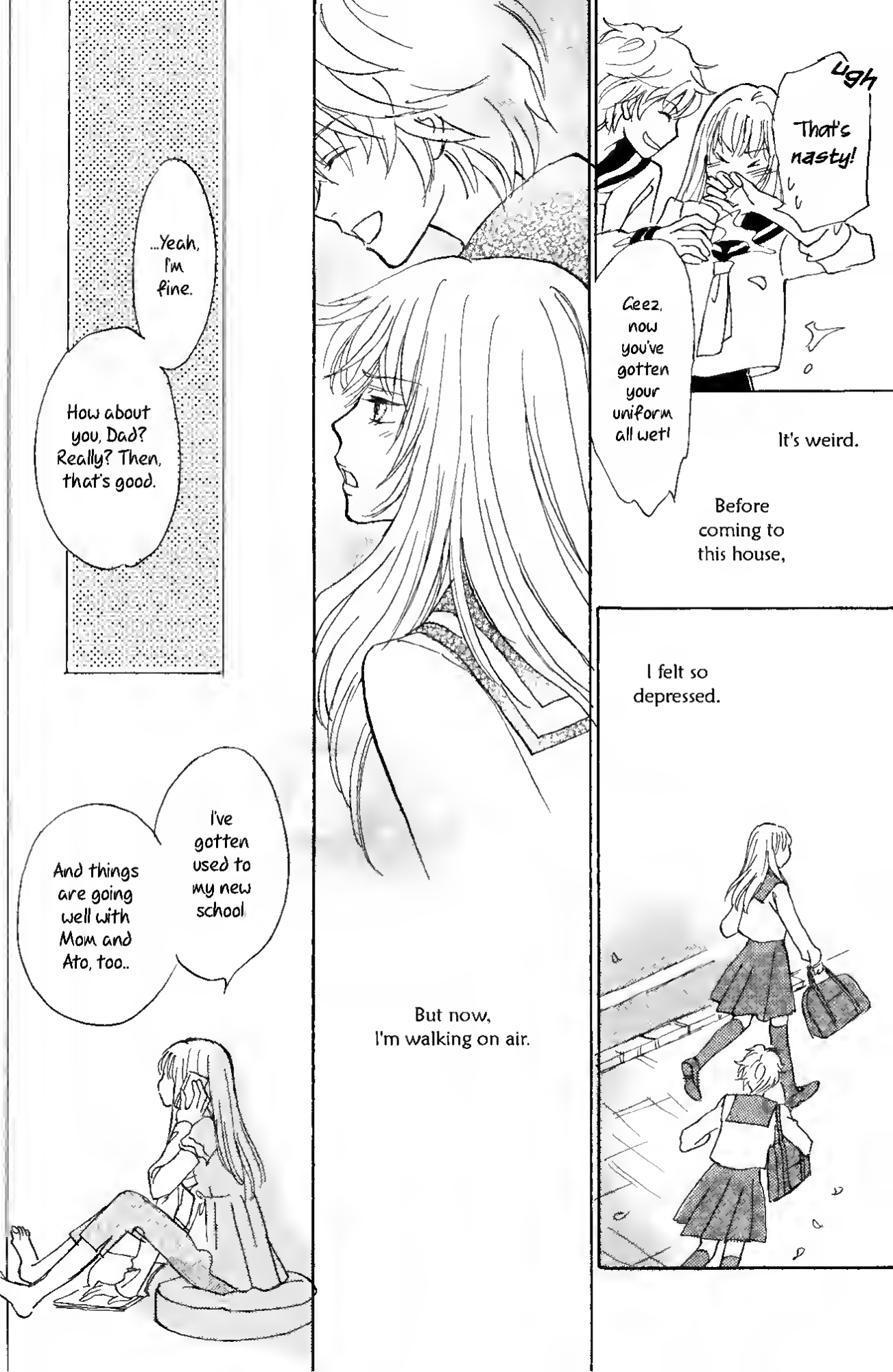
My fabricated heart is unraveling as though it were a lie.
whump

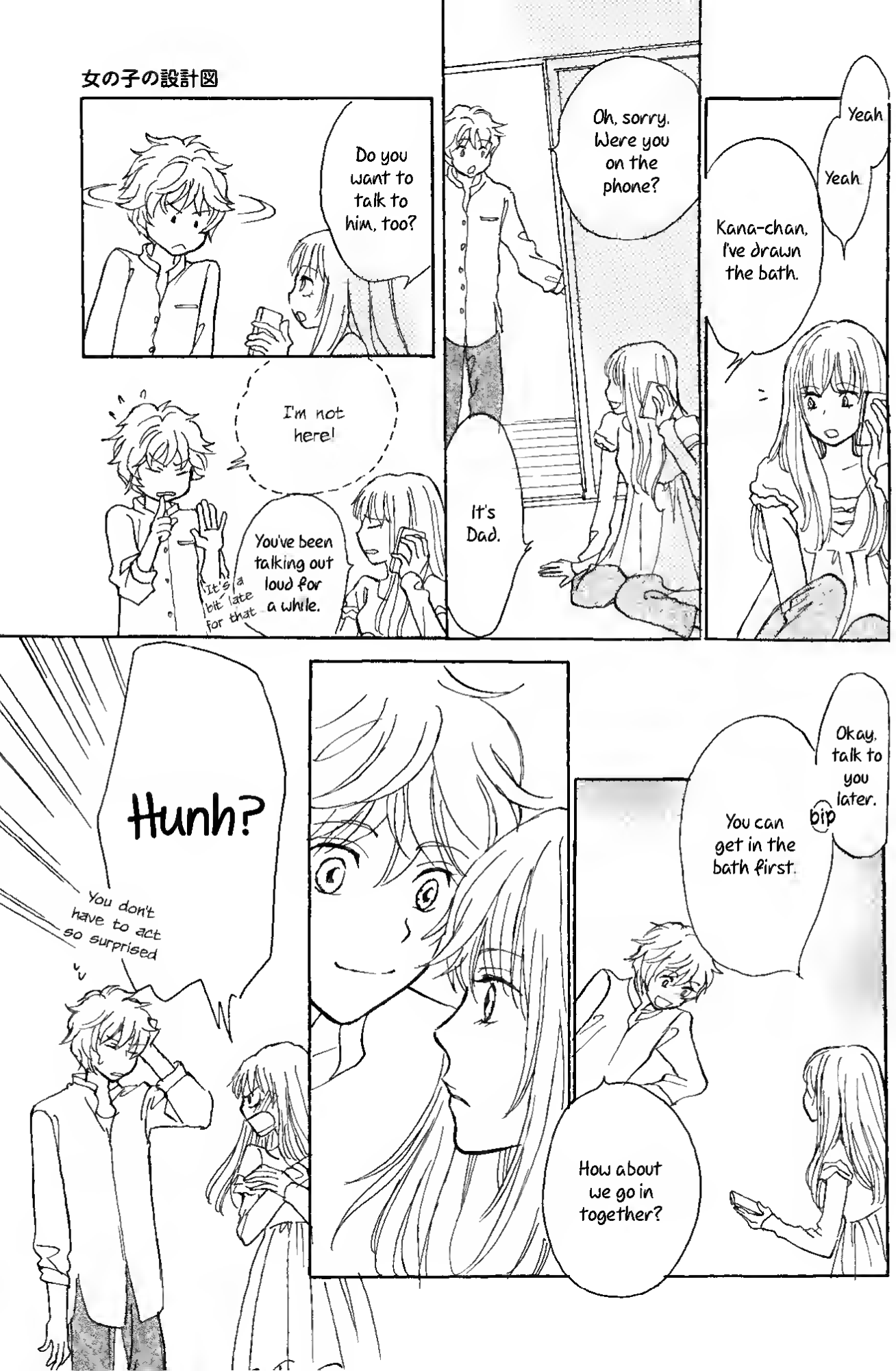
Wah!
POFF
Here's the counter-assault!
hee hee hee
I didn't think you'd actually start a pillow fight every night...
Whoosh
What's going on? That looks fun!
Let me join in! ♡
Now you've done it!
Take that!
Kya!
Kya!
Eek!
Wah!

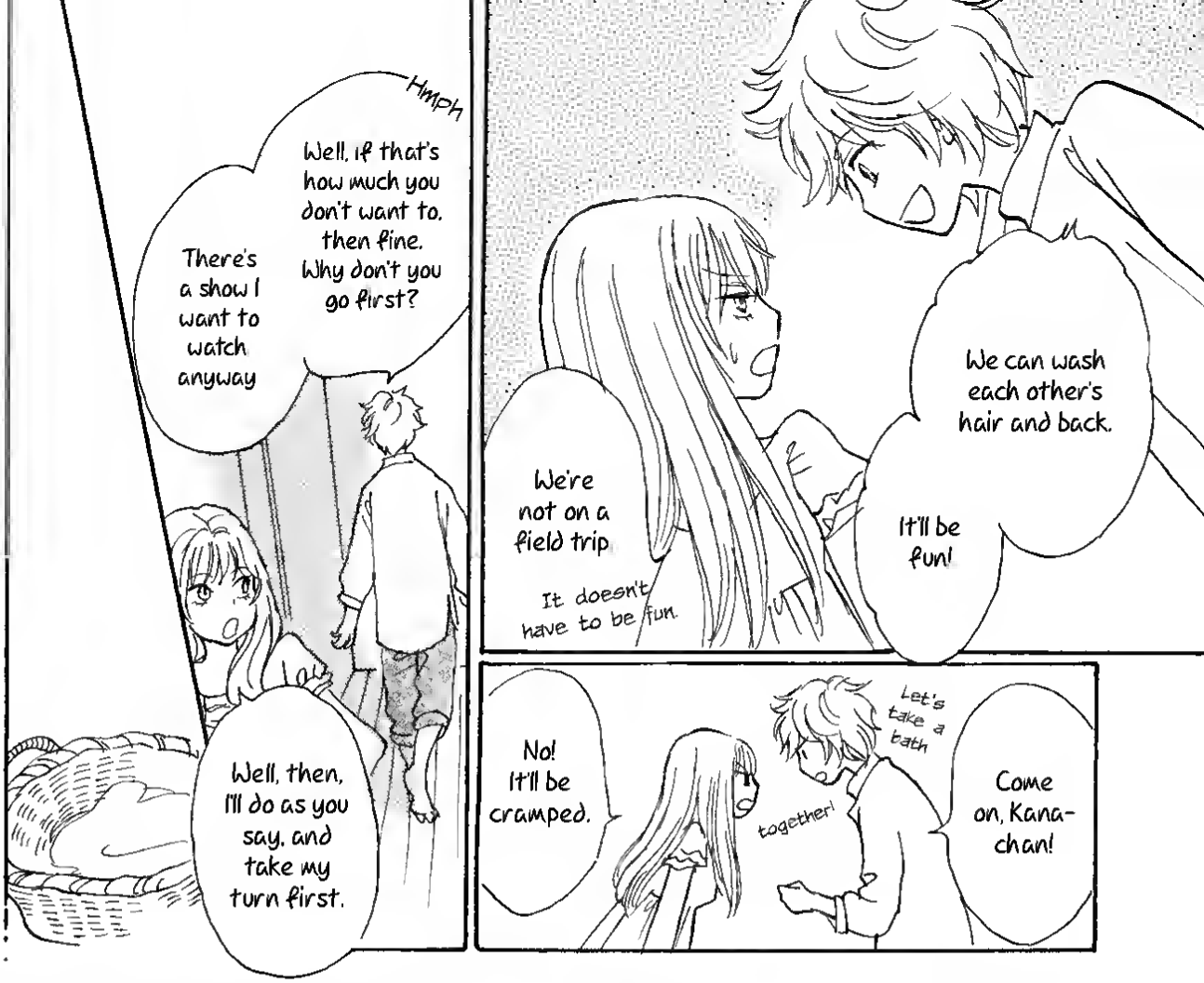

Whoa!
Good morning.
It looks so good!
All of this is you, Kana-chan?
...Well, breakfast here is always toast or snack bread.
There's not even any salad, so...
And I like cooking.
I only made it because there's no one who will.
It... It's not about diligence, or anything.
So diligent...
Oh I was the one who did all the housework when I was living with my father, too
Aren't you the one who should take a lesson?
Take a lesson from her, Ato
I'm sorry.
I'm not fond of mornings

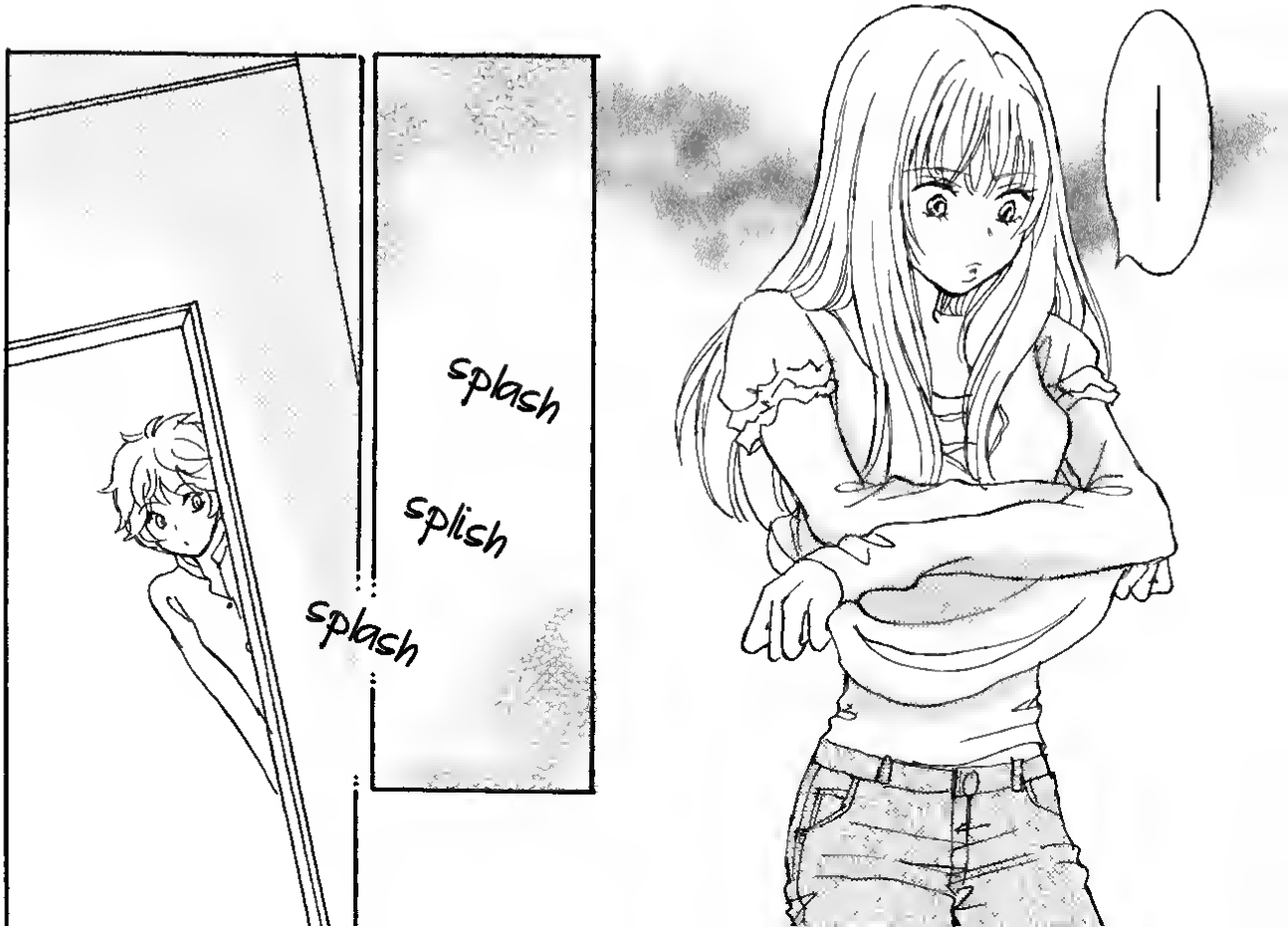
I haven't had miso soup in the morning for so long...
Delicious
Don't tell her that, Mom!
I have a meeting first thing today, so I'm leaving first.
Thanks for the meal!
See you later.
chuckle
What?
Isn't this nice?
Things weren't bad living with Mom, just the two of us,
but since you've come here, Kana-chan, it feels a lot more like we're a family.
Yes, right, of course.
You're just trying to get me to make breakfast every day.
Heh heh

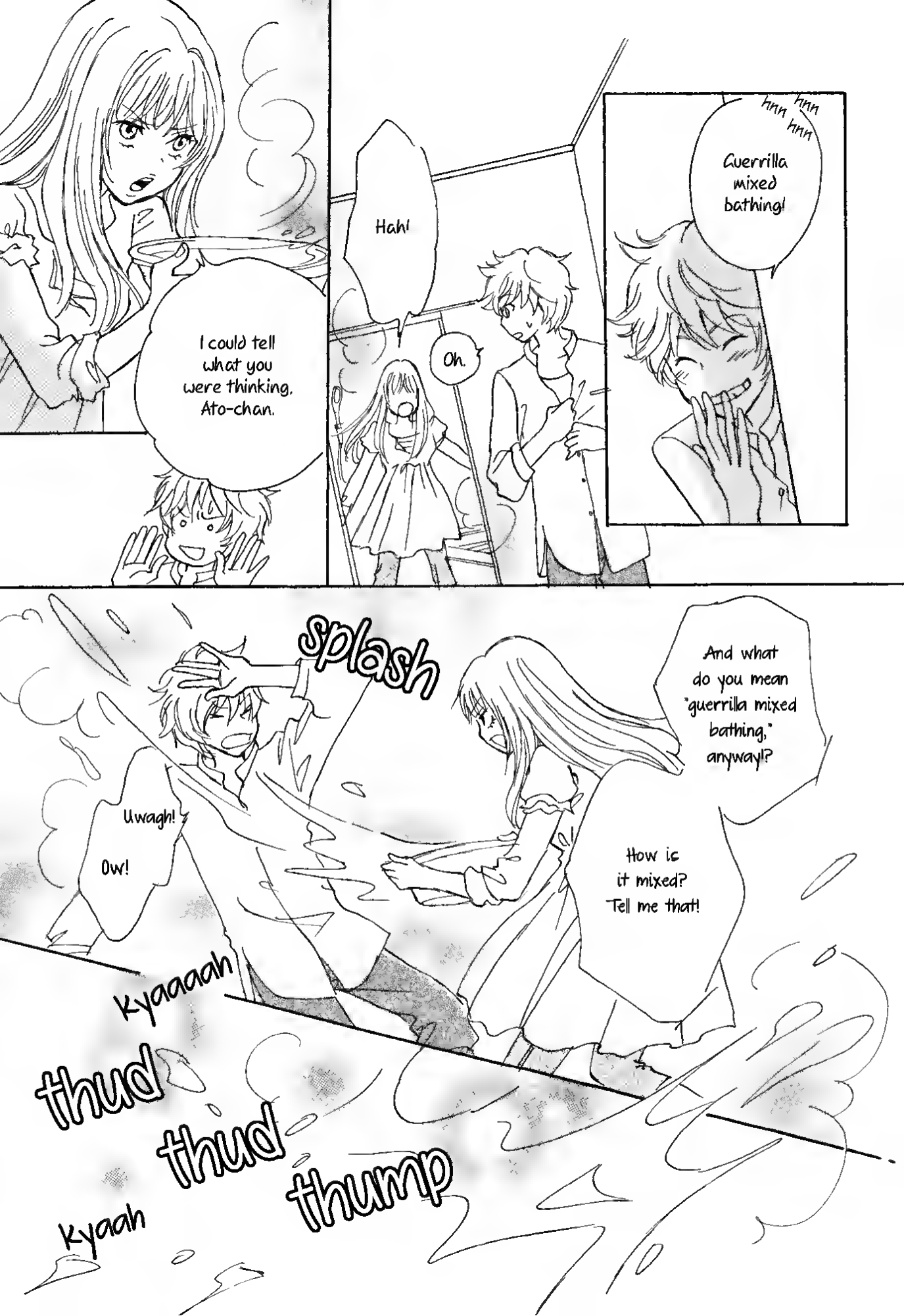
If we take it easy, we'll be late, too.
Come on, we can do the dishes when we get back.
I don't like to leave dirty things around.
You sure take things seriously.
See for yourself.
There's mineral water in the refriger-ator, you know.
The water from the faucet is fine.
Huh? It isn't nasty?

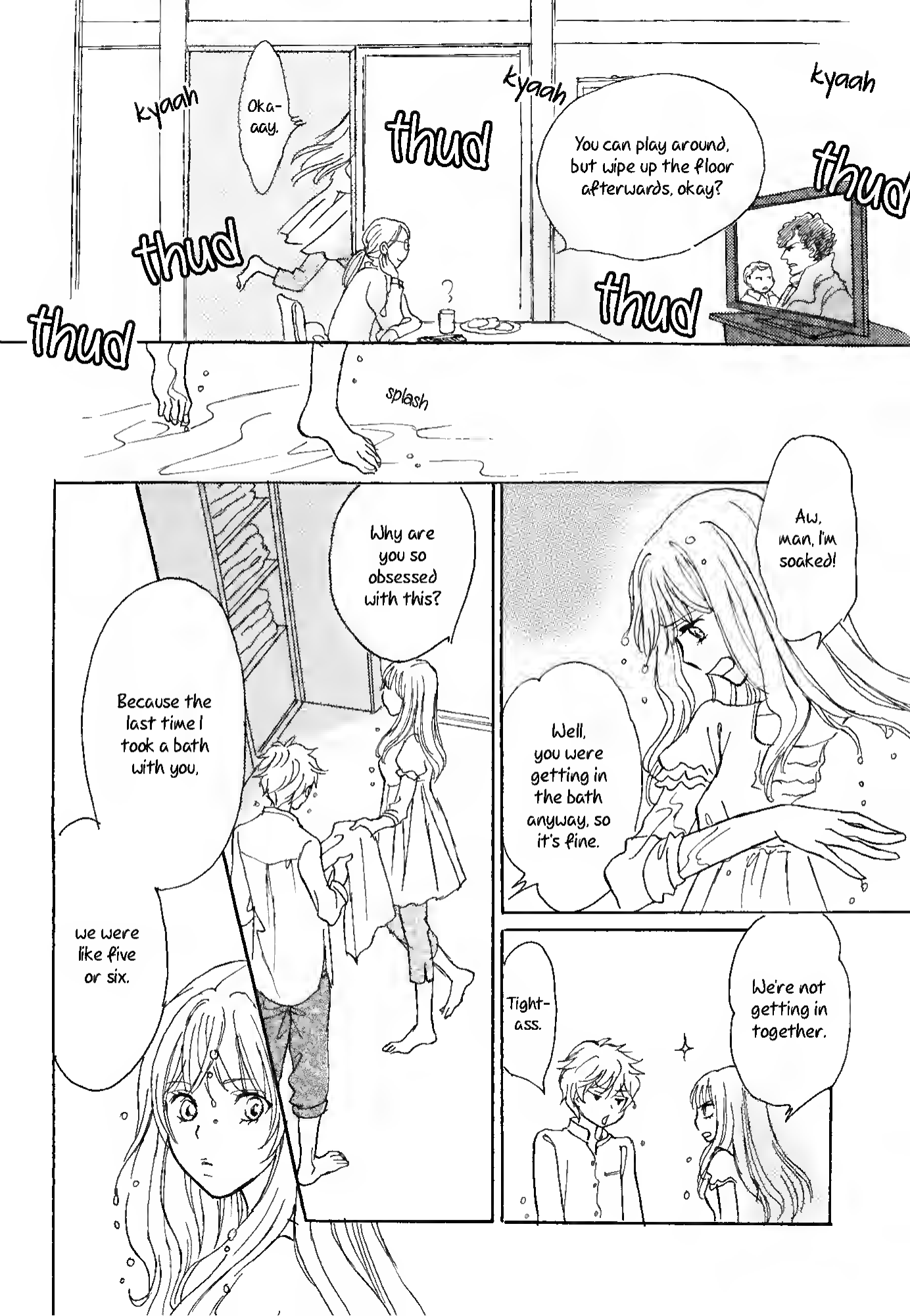

...Yeah, I'm fine.
How about you, Dad? Really? Then, that's good.
I've gotten used to my new school
And things are going well with Mom and Ato, too..
But now, I'm walking on air.
Ugh
That's nasty!
Geez, now you've gotten your uniform all wet!
It's weird.
Before coming to this house,
I felt so depressed.

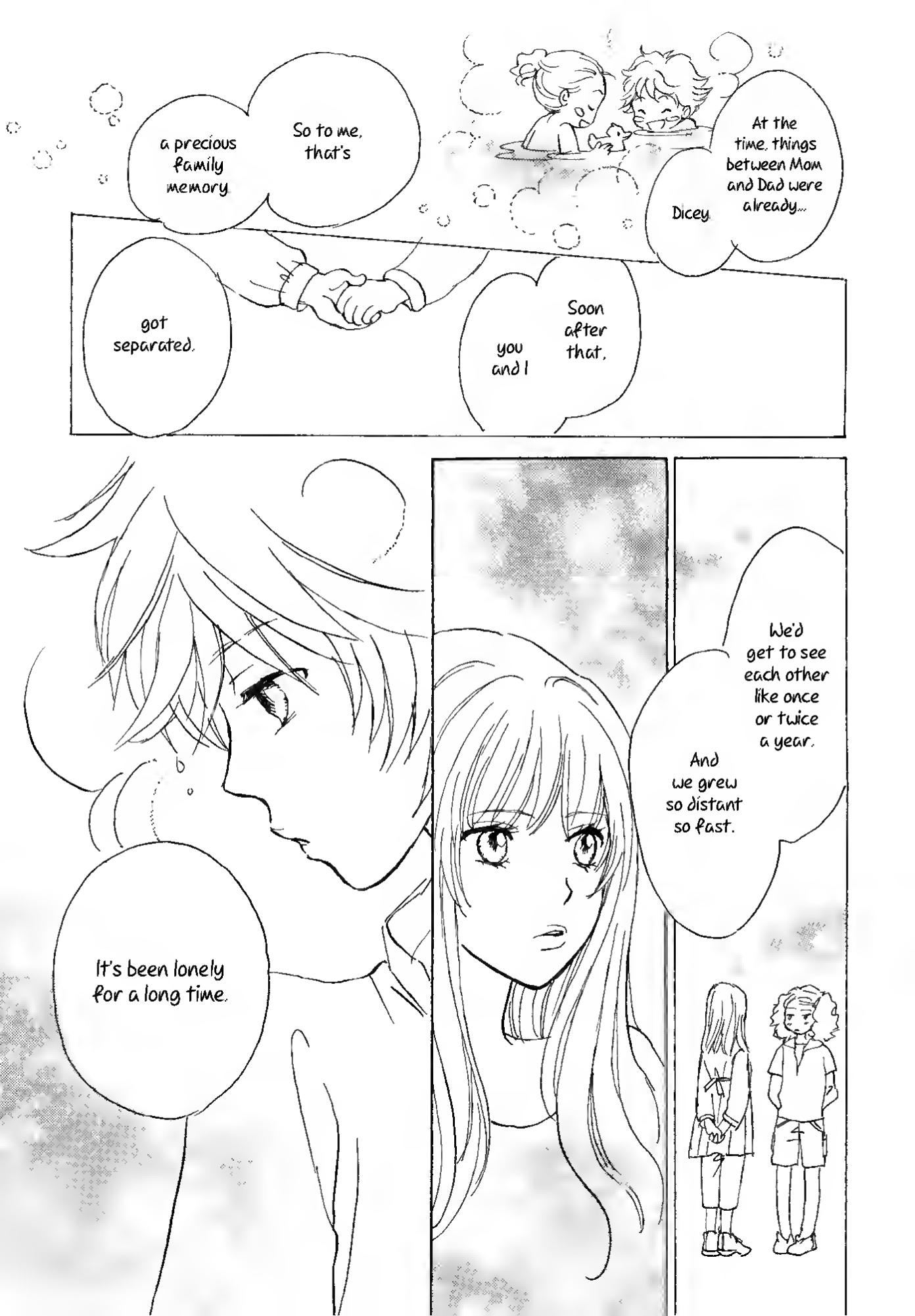

Do you want to talk to him, too?
Oh, sorry. Were you on the phone?
It's Dad.
Yeah
Yeah
Kana-chan, I've drawn the bath.
I'm not here!
You've been talking out loud for a while.
It's a bit late for that
Hunh?
You don't have to act so surprised
Okay, talk to you later.
bip
You can get in the bath first.
How about we go in together?


We can wash each other's hair and back.
It'll be fun!
We're not on a field trip.
It doesn't have to be fun.
Let's take a bath together!
Come on, Kana-chan!
No! It'll be cramped.
Hmph
Well, if that's how much you don't want to, then fine. Why don't you go first?
There's a show I want to watch anyway
Well, then, I'll do as you say, and take my turn first.


splash
splish
splash
...


I could tell what you were thinking, Ato-chan.
Hah!
Oh.
Hmm hmm hmm
Guerrilla mixed bathing!
Splash
Uwagh!
Ow!
And what do you mean "guerrilla mixed bathing," anyway!?
How is it mixed? Tell me that!
Kyaaaah
thud thud thump
Kyaah


kyaah
Oka-aay.
thud
thud
kyaah
You can play around, but wipe up the floor afterwards, okay?
kyaah
thud
thud
thud
splash
Why are you so obsessed with this?
Because the last time I took a bath with you,
we were like five or six.
Aw, man, I'm soaked!
Well, you were getting in the bath anyway, so it's fine.
Tight-ass.
We're not getting in together.


At the time, things between Mom and Dad were already...
Dicey
Soon after that,
you and I
got separated.
So to me, that's
a precious family memory.
We'd get to see each other like once or twice a year.
And we grew so distant so fast.
It's been lonely for a long time.

You're the little sister, so at least when you ask me for something,
could you get a little smaller?
But your "big sister" has one thing to ask.
I guess I don't have much of a choice.
More.
Uh.. Like this?
Not quite.
So, Like this?
Hmm. Well, I guess that's about right.
..Like this?

Kana-chan?
Huh?
slam!

knock
knock
Kana-chan?
No! You can't open it!
No
No
No
No
No
No
What is going on!?
End

Blueprints for a Girl 1
by Konna Kita

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